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THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It is considered that an aerial survey will not help in achieving the object aimed at.

SRI T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR : In view of the fact that the suggestion for an aerial survey of Malabar forests was made not for the fancy of it but in the light of the fact that forest areas in Malabar district are not accessible to surveyors and in view of the fact that no such surveys had been made, may I know whether the Government will see that some fruitful measures are resorted to to see that the Malabar forests are surveyed?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : Whatever be the difficulties experienced, the Government consider that an aerial survey will not serve any purpose.

Unemployed trained nurses

* 2526 Q.—SRI K. P. GOPALAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(a) the number of unemployed male and female trained nurses now in the State; and

(b) whether the Government have any proposal to take them in Government service?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY : (a) The number of unemployed trained nurses in this State is at present 46 men and 104 women.

(b) The names of Government trained nurses are included in a waiting list and they are provided with appointment in Government Service as and when vacancies arise. Apart from this there is no proposal to absorb all the trained nurses in Government service all at one time.

SRI K. P. GOPALAN : Sir, the Hon. Minister had stated on many occasions that the number of nurses available were not enough to cope with the work in the various hospitals. In view of the facts that the hospitals have to be run efficiently and that the problem of unemployment among nurses will also have to be solved, may I know whether the Hon. Minister will be pleased to see that steps are taken to absorb the unemployed nurses in the various hospitals of the State as early as possible?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY : In connexion with Part II Schemes for 1955–56, Government have sanctioned an additional number of 100 nurses.

Married female nurses

* 2527 Q.—SRI K. R. VISWANATHAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the married female nurses are compelled to stay within the compound of the nurses' quarters in the Hospital for Indigenous Medicine, Kilpauk, Madras ; and

(b) the reasons therefor?

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THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY : (*a*) Yes, Sir.

(*b*) They were required to stay in the nurses quarters for administrative reasons.

Working of the provisions re rent in the Malabar Tenancy Act.

* 2528 *Q.*—SRI K. C. GOPALAN UNNI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received any representation from the small landholders in Malabar in 1955 regarding the difficulties caused by the working of the provisions relating to fixation of rent, fixity of tenure, etc., in the Malabar Tenancy Act; and

(*b*) the action taken thereon?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : (*a*) Yes, Sir.

(*b*) Pending comprehensive land reforms no decision has been taken on the request from the Small Landholders' Association in Malabar for providing for resumption of lands by small landholders for personal cultivation. As regards suspending the functions of Rent Courts constituted under the Malabar Tenancy Act the Government considered it unnecessary to do so.

Digging of a lake in Vadavathur village in Namakkal taluk under the Second Five-Year Plan

* 2529 *Q.*—SRI M. P. PERIASWAMI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government received any petition from the people of Vadavathur village in Namakkal taluk to construct a lake under the Five-Year Plan in their village ;

(*b*) if so, whether the Government appointed or deputed any special officer to go into the question ;

(*c*) if so, why the work has not been taken up for execution ; and

(*d*) when the work will be taken up?

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI : (*a*) A petition from the Secretary, Elaignar Congress, Namakkal, was received on 17th December 1954.

(*b*) *to* (*d*) On receiving the petition, the Executive Engineer, Salem Division, examined the matter in a preliminary manner and found that while it appeared at the outset that the extent mentioned as irrigable was greatly exaggerated, the matter required a regular investigation to determine the supply conditions, the availability of area, the irrigation rights already existing, etc., for which a special staff would be required. The Government have therefore sanctioned the necessary special staff. Only after the special staff has completed the investigation, can it be known whether the scheme can be taken up at all.